



Detroit Police Reserves – 2021 Presentation

James E. White
Chief of Police

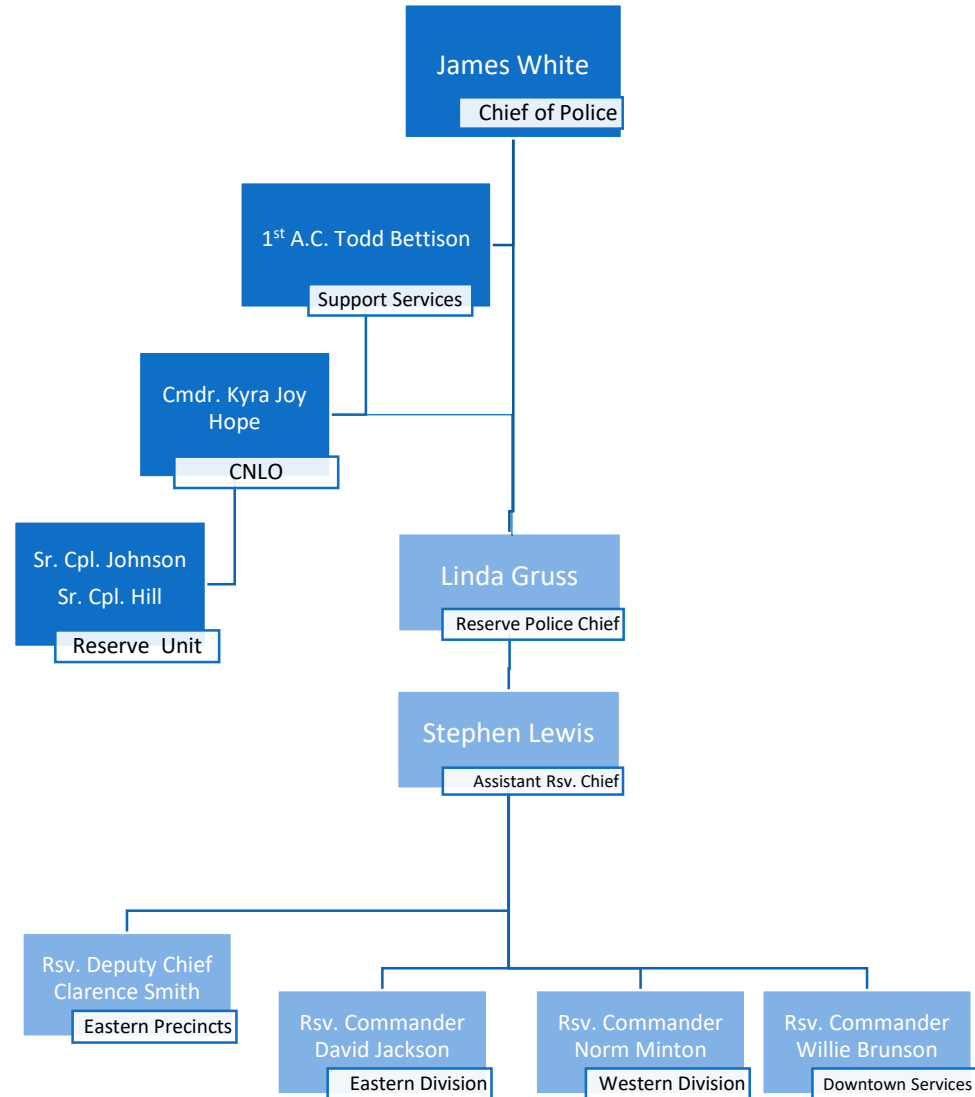
Presented By:
R/Assistant Chief Stephen Lewis

About the Detroit Police Reserve Corps

Police Reservists are uniformed volunteers who possess a strong desire to serve the community in a law enforcement capacity. Established under section 7-818 of the Detroit City Charter, Reserve Officers play an integral role in the Detroit Police Department. When called to duty, Reserve Police Officers, as designated by the Chief, have the powers of peace officers.

The Detroit Police Reserve Corps is overseen by the commanding officer of the Chief's Neighborhood Liaison Office (CNLO) Commander Kyra Joy Hope. Police Seniority Corporals Jeffrey Johnson and Royce Hill provide the day-to-day coordination and management of the 120-person unit. The Reserve executive team, headed by Reserve Police Chief Linda Gruss and Reserve Assistant Chief Stephen Lewis, works hand-in-hand with the CNLO to direct, deploy, and grow the membership of this valuable force.

Detroit Police Reserve Executive Team



2020 In Review



All new 20 hour DPR supervisor training program was rolled out to all supervisory reservists



Reserve officers provided safety and security for COVID testing sites throughout last year, and are assisting with vaccine clinics this year



A new set of Standard Operating Procedures was completed to meet department standards



A new online Reserve Detail Tracking application was created and is entering pilot testing

Detroit Police Reserves and COVID-19

Participation



- ☐ DPR Members continued to serve throughout the pandemic
- ☐ DPRs contributed over 2,600 hours of duty time from May 2020 through January 2021
- ☐ Many DPR members were at high risk of COVID complications and have taken a leave of absence at various times

Adaptation



- ☐ Most monthly meetings have moved online or to conference calls
- ☐ The planned reserve academy class in the fall of 2020 was postponed
- ☐ Nearly all sporting, concert, and festival events were cancelled, forcing many reservists to assist in other functional areas

Signification



- ☐ There are no documented cases of any reservist contracting COVID19 from any police department activity
- ☐ Approximately 2/3 of all reserve members have received at least one dose of the vaccine
- ☐ Recruitment has continued and we've received applications from numerous individuals seeking to join the program

In Memoriam – Reserve Commander Henry Dodge


Reserve Commander Henry Dodge passed away in February of this year. With 53 years of service, he was the longest-serving member of the Detroit Police Reserve Corps in its 80-year history.

While Dodge stepped down from active command in the Reserve Corps last decade, he maintained his involvement with the program, serving as a liaison to other police departments and agencies across the region. He functioned as the 'Dean' of the corps, chairing the executive meetings, and providing counsel to the leadership.

Commander Dodge was honored last month at a private ceremony at the Great Lakes National Veteran's Cemetery in Holly. Members of the DPD and DPR executive team were present to pay respects and to present his survivors with a Spirit of Detroit award and a resolution from Council President Brenda Jones. His badge number – #255 – will be retired from service and a plaque commemorating his service will be placed in the official archives of the Detroit Police Department.



Detroit Police Reserve Continuing Education Program



Legal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Statutory and Case Law• Impact on Reserve Officers
Departmental	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• DPD Policies and Procedures• Reserve Corps Procedures
Tactical	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Use of Force• De-escalation Techniques
Social	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Health Awareness• Implicit Bias• LGBTQ+ Relations
Civic	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ambassadorship• City/County/State Resource Awareness

Numbers of Interest

- Reserve Officers contributed over 2900 volunteer hours to the Detroit Police Department in 2020, which was a decrease from 2019 but still exceptional in light of the pandemic. Approximately 65% of detail time was spent in neighborhood precincts.
- In the past 12 months Reserve Officers conducted over 700 special attention site visits of Green Light locations.
- Reserve officers were present for 32 days of protests in 2020. There were 0 citizen complaints or use of force incidents involving police reserve officers during the entire engagement.

2021 Major Initiatives

Continue to increase recruitment into the Police Reserve Corps

- New class is currently being assembled with a target start in September of this year

Downtown Safety and Security

- Reserve officers have begun a focus on assisting Downtown Services with providing weekend support to secure the Greektown and Central Business District areas

Launch partnership with the Citizen's Radio Patrol

- Reserve officers will partner with the radio patrol and NPOs to address quality-of-life issues in the neighborhoods

Expand reserve member participation in community-focused events

- Increasing opportunities for members to expand beyond traditional reserve duties through youth mentorship through PAL, community wellness, and civic outreach activities

Launch the DPR continuing education program

- Originally scheduled for 2020, but was postponed due to the pandemic

2021 Core Focus

Recruitment

- Robust recruitment drive for new reserve officers that targets community members wishing to become involved with public safety.
- The events of 2020 have presented an opportunity for citizens to become more involved with their police. The Reserve Corps allows for community members to play a role in policing, which then strengthens the bond between the community and its police department.

Community Division

- The DPR has launched the Community Services Division, which will allow a significant number of our members to transition from front-line detail work to a community service support role. This idea, conceived by Commander Hope and Reserve Chief Gruss, will allow reservists to maintain membership in the Reserve Corps by providing critical support and assistance to a number of CNLO programs. With many members approaching or exceeding 25 years of service, the Community Services Division will honor these officers by permitting a transition to lighter-duty activities. Traditional reserve duties will be the focus of our other division and our new recruits.

Questions

